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COUNCIL OF STATES

Parliament House

NOTIFICATION

New Delhi, the 11th July 1952

No. CS/3/52-L.—In exercise of the powers conferred by clause (2) of article 118 of the Constitution of India, the Chairman of the Council of States hereby makes the following amendments in the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Council of States published under Notification No. 11-CS/52, dated the 16th May 1952, in the *Gazette of India Extraordinary* of the 16th May 1952:—

Amendments

1. For rule 29 of the said rules, the following rule shall be substituted, namely:—

"29. Time for questions.—Unless the Chairman otherwise directs, the first hour of the sitting on every Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday shall be available for the asking and answering of questions:

Provided that if in any week the Council does not sit on any of those days, but sits on Friday, the first hour of the sitting on that Friday shall be also available for the asking and answering of questions."

2. For rule 34 of the said rules, the following rule shall be substituted, namely:—

"34. Member entitled to oral answers to three questions on a day.—(1) Not more than three questions distinguished by asterisks by the same member shall be placed on the list of questions for oral answer on any one day. Questions in excess of three shall be placed in the list of questions for written answers.

(2) The order in which questions for oral answer are to be placed shall be indicated by the member giving notice and, if no such order is indicated, the questions shall be placed in the list of questions for oral answer in the order in which notices are received in point of time."

3. After rule 34 of the said rules, the following rule shall be inserted, namely:—

"34A. Allotment of days for oral answers to questions.—The time available for answering questions shall be allotted on different days in rotation for the answering of questions relating to such Ministry or Ministries as the Chairman may, from time to time, provide, and on each such day, unless the Chairman with the consent of the Minister concerned otherwise directs, only questions relating to the Ministry or Ministries for which time on that day has been allotted shall be placed on the list of questions for oral answer."

4. Clause (xvii) of sub-rule (2) of rule 37 of the said rules shall be omitted.

5. Rule 39 of the said rules shall be renumbered as sub-rule (1) of rule 39 and to the said rule as so re-numbered, the following shall be added, namely:—

"(2) Subject to the provisions of rule 34A, the Chairman may direct that a question be placed on the list of questions for answer on a date later than that specified by a member in his notice, if he is of the opinion that a longer period is necessary to decide whether the question is or is not admissible."

6. In rule 43 of the said rules, after the words "the question shall" the words, figures and letter "subject to the provisions of rule 34A" shall be inserted.

7. After Chapter VII of the said rules, the following Chapter shall be inserted, namely:—

"CHAPTER VII-A

Half-an-hour Discussion

48A. Discussion on a matter of public importance arising out of answers to questions.—(1) The Chairman shall allot half-an-hour from 5 P.M. to 5.30 P.M. on two days in a week, namely, Wednesday and Friday, for raising discussion on a matter of sufficient public importance which has been the subject of a question in the Council, irrespective of the fact whether the question was answered orally or the answer was laid on the Table of the Council:

Provided that if the other business set down for the day is concluded before 5 P.M. the period of half-an-hour shall commence from the time such other business is concluded:

Provided further that the Chairman may allot any day instead of Wednesday or Friday or vary the time of commencement of such discussion if such a course is, in his opinion, necessary or convenient.

(2) A member wishing to raise a matter shall give notice in writing to the Secretary three days in advance of the day on which the matter is desired to be raised, and shall shortly specify the point or points that he wishes to raise:

Provided that the notice shall be accompanied by an explanatory note stating the reasons for raising discussion on the matter in question:

Provided further that the notice shall be supported by the signature of at least two other members:

Provided further that the Chairman may with the consent of the Minister concerned waive the requirement concerning the period of notice.

(3) The Chairman shall decide whether the matter is of sufficient public importance to be put down for discussion.

(4) If more than two notices have been received and admitted by the Chairman, the Secretary shall hold a ballot with a view to drawing two notices and the notices shall be put down in the order in which they were received in point of time:

Provided that if any matter put down for discussion on a particular day is not disposed of on that day it shall not be set down for any further day, unless the member so desires, in which case it shall be included in the ballot for the next available day.

(5) There shall be no formal motion before the Council nor voting. The member who has given notice may make a short statement and the Minister concerned shall reply shortly. Any member who has previously intimated to the Chairman may be permitted to put a question for the purpose of further elucidating any matter of fact."

By order of the Chairman,

S. N. MUKERJEE, Secy.